



# St Mark the Evangelist Anglican Church

1606 Fisher Ave, Ottawa ON K2C 1X6

Volume 7:5

April 17, 2026

## Weekly Newsletter

Dear friends,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We are continuing the weekly newsletter for the foreseeable future.

Please send any news items or announcements for the newsletter to [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca) with the word newsletter in the subject line.

### Shout Outs

If you would like some special occasion like an anniversary or birthday acknowledged in the Sunday service, we will be more than happy to announce it. However, it must be in to the office by Wednesday Evening for it to be included in the service for the following Sunday.

- Kathy Woodard celebrated her birthday on April 14.

### Live Streaming

The service will be streamed at 10 am on Sunday. [service bulletin](#) The link is also available on the home page of our website.

### St Mark's Day Luncheon

Next Sunday, April 26, we will celebrate our Patron Saint St Mark. This will take the form of a chili luncheon after the 10 a m service.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the Link. Please put down your name and number in your family. This is to make sure the Mothers' Union members make enough chili. There will be gluten free, vegetarian and chicken chili as well as the regular beef chili.

There will be soup for those who cannot eat chili. We've covered the bases so you won't go hungry!

Church lunches give us time to chat together. Sign up!

Cynthia



### Invitation to Bishop Kathryn's Consecration



By the grace of God and with the consent of the people,  
**The Venerable Kathryn Anne Otley**  
 will be ordained and consecrated  
 a Bishop in the Church of God  
 by  
**The Most Reverend Anne Germond**  
 Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario  
 with  
 the Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada  
 and will be seated as  
**The Eleventh Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa**  
 at  
**Christ Church Cathedral**  
 414 Sparks Street, Ottawa  
**Saturday, May 9, 2026**  
**10:30 am**  
 Commemoration of Julian of Norwich (tr.)  
 Your prayers and presence are warmly requested  
 as we gather in thanksgiving and hope for this new ministry.  
**Festive reception to follow**  
 Clergy are invited to vest (red stoles)

Livestream available at <https://www.youtube.com/@ChristChurchCathedralOttawa/streams>

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### Gardening Help Needed

Our spring/summer garden season is finally here. We are looking for volunteers to help with planting, weeding, and watering. It's a great way to enjoy the outdoors and make our church gardens beautiful. No experience necessary—just a willing heart!

If you can spare just one half hour a week to weed our garden beds (flexible time!), we need you. It's a peaceful way to serve that fits almost any schedule.

Please talk to Joan Grayer or Mike Duval if you are interested.

### Coffee, Company & Conversation

Thursday's CCC was a creative writing group morning with others sharing conversation over coffee and goodies. The morning snacks that accompanied the tea and coffee were prepared by Pat Sinclair and Cynthia Greer, and were delicious. There were ham and cheese muffins, spritz cookies, lemon mini-tarts, date and walnut kisses which were gluten and dairy free, and mini donuts. In addition, as always, there was a cheese selection, cheddar, brie, goat and blue, with crackers. Grapes, cantaloupe slices and apple slices completed the offerings. The effort made by our food teams is always so appreciated by everyone. Thank you Cynthia and Pat.



Next week another of CCC's April guests will be entertaining with music. Jamie Anderson is someone who is no stranger to CCC, and is back by popular demand. She is a singer, guitarist and song writer, who also teaches guitar, mandolin and other instruments. Her repertoire is familiar to all. Don't miss a morning of easy listening.

### Notes from Parish Council

There are a number of special events and exciting activities in the planning stage so keep watching the this space for more information.

The first special event will be our Patronal Festival. **St Mark's Day** will be celebrated on April 26 with a special service featuring our own St Mark's hymns and the **Commissioning of our new Parish Council**. This gives everyone a chance to meet and officially recognize Parish Council and for Parish Council Members reinforces their responsibilities to the parish. This will be followed by St Mark's Day Luncheon. Details to be found on the front page of the newsletter.

One of bulletin boards in the link is to be designated for parish council use and every month, the parish council notes, including financial and property information will be posted.

### Property Update

We are continuing the beautification and rejuvenation of St. Mark's infrastructure as part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a safe, welcoming, and well-cared-for place of worship.

Recently, the Link area has been refreshed, including a newly painted ceiling following the installation of updated lighting. These improvements are part of a broader effort to brighten and modernize our interior spaces. More updates are still to come!

We are also addressing several minor infrastructure items. This includes routine servicing of our HVAC equipment to ensure reliable performance and efficiency. In addition, we are currently gathering information and pricing for potential upgrades

to our facilities to support the long-term sustainability of our church building.

**Waste Management**

Due to updated waste collection requirements introduced at the provincial level, St. Mark's must now follow yellow bag limits for regular garbage pickup. These changes are intended to reduce landfill waste and encourage increased recycling and composting.

In response, St. Mark's is working toward a greener approach to managing our property. Parish groups, guilds, and hall users are kindly asked to help by properly separating garbage, recycling, and compostable materials whenever possible.

Yellow garbage bags are now required for excess waste and can be costly for the parish. As these bags must be purchased from designated hardware and retail locations, this also requires additional time and effort from parish volunteers. If anyone would like to support this initiative by donating City-approved yellow bags, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Spring Clean-Up Day**

Looking ahead, we are pleased to announce our annual Spring Clean-Up Day on May 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. If you are able to lend a hand, we would greatly appreciate your support with lawn care, window cleaning, gardening, general landscaping, and other tasks. Please save the date and consider joining us for this important community effort. There is a role for everyone, regardless of skill level.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers, including our guilds who faithfully support and help lead our church services. Your ongoing contributions to the care, maintenance, and life of St. Mark's are deeply appreciated and play a vital role in keeping our church a beautiful and welcoming place for everyone.

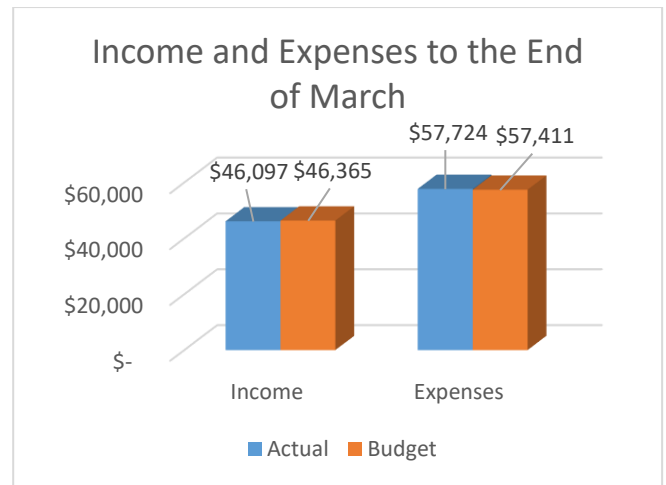
If you have any concerns, suggestions, or feedback regarding St. Mark's property, please feel free to reach out at [mike@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:mike@stmarksottawa.ca).

Thank you all for helping make St. Mark's a cornerstone of our community.

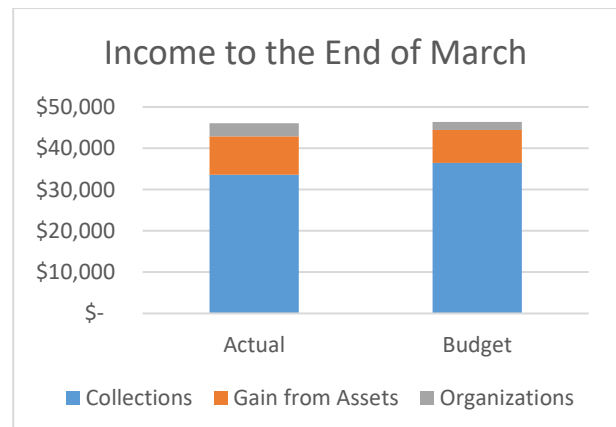
Mike Duval  
People's Warden – Property

**Financial Update**

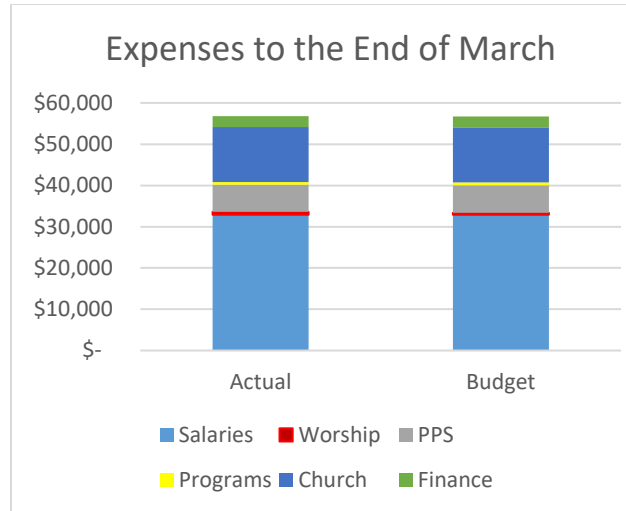
In general, we are very close to where we expected to be at this point in the year. Please remember that this is expecting that our expenses will exceed our income by ~\$16,500 at the end of the year.



While our income was very close to expected, where the income came from was slightly different. We have had increased income from Gain from Assets (mostly User Fees) and Organizations (mostly Bazaar) and slightly less than expected Collections income.



When we look at our expenses, we find that the categories are very close to our budgeted amounts. Some amount of variation is expected, especially this early in the year. For example, an expense which was budgeted for April may end up being spent in March and only a few months into the year can make a significant difference in the expenses in a particular category.



- Salaries – All staff salaries and any fill ins
- Worship – Altar guild supplies (bread, wine, polish, etc) piano/organ upkeep, Music, Flowers
- PPS – Proportional Parish Share (Fair Share, Apportionment)
- Programs – Black History Month, AED (Defibrillator) upkeep, conferences & memberships, synod
- Church – Facility Maintenance and Upkeep including electricity, gas, water, cleaning, cleaning supplies, etc
- Finance – Bank Charges, Insurance

Income and expenses from both Black History Month and the Pancake Supper have been received since last Parish Council.

Here is a summary of those items

	Income	Expense	Net
Pancake Supper	\$315	\$57	\$257
Black History Month	\$457	\$506	-\$48

**Debra Dynes Family House is growing with the Trillium Grow Grant!**

We all know that competition for grants is fierce, and that’s why everyone at Debra Dynes Family House was stunned when they received notice that they would be receiving the Trillium Grow Grant! The Trillium Foundation will be granting DDFH \$150,000

over the next 3 years to transform our Community Garden into an Urban Farm.

Some of you may remember Victory Gardens as a critical food strategy that women used throughout Canada when war rations made feeding a family nearly impossible. Small gardens grew produce enough for each family to survive. Debra Dynes is taking that square foot philosophy and applying it at a neighbourhood scale.

Thanks to support from Just Food, DDFH will be home to 28 raised metal beds. In cooperation with their Garden Master and their generous volunteers, over the first year they hope to: install automatic irrigation systems, add weigh scales to track their production, increase their compost yields, and host bilingual home growing workshops for those living in the community. In year two, they hope to enclose the area to protect it from wild-life and vandalism, increase the production yields and be able to enhance food bank offerings with culturally appropriate foods and medicines grown locally. Year three should bring a year of solidifying their procedures and sharing their learning with the world.

There will always be challenges, globally and locally. We will meet them where we are, and as a community we can ensure that no one ever goes hungry. Not while Debra Dynes is growing!

**Debra Dynes Family House**

The donation bin is located in the Link on a bench.

Beside Sunday service gifts, we also have generous donations from the Bible Study group Wednesday mornings, and Coffee, Company and Conversation on Thursday mornings.

Thanks to all who donated cloth bags! I am well stocked for now.

As always, much needed are the following:

- Canned Evaporated Milk
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauces

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- Tuna/canned meats
- Fruit cups/granola bars



### Parish List

If you have changed your home address, email address, landline or cell number that you previously gave us, please send the changes to the office so we are able to put out an up to date directory. Thank you to those who have already done so.

If you are a recent member who may not have filled in a membership form, please ask for one from a sidesperson, the office or membership chair, Cynthia Greer.

### E-Prayer

E-prayer is now managed jointly by Cynthia Greer and Joy Bowerman. If you have a concern for which you would like prayer, you may contact Cynthia Greer at 613-723-2680 or [greercynthia69@yahoo.com](mailto:greercynthia69@yahoo.com) or send an email to [Eprayer@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:Eprayer@stmarksottawa.ca). Likewise, if wish to be included on the E-prayer list, you may use the same contact information.

### Rev Mary-Cate's contact information

Mary-Cate's email is [MaryCate@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:MaryCate@stmarksottawa.ca) You may call her at 613-231-7451 or 416-709-3487.

### Dollar for Dollar Coupons

We still have some dollar for dollar coupons from before the pandemic. We will be selling these at coffee hour until they are gone. They can be used at participating Loblaw's, Dominion, No Frills, Real Canadian Superstore, Maxi, Provigo, Extra Foods, Your Independent Grocer, Atlantic Superstore, Zehrs Markets, Valu-mart, Fortinos, Wholesale Club and T & T Supermarket. Please talk to Joy about purchasing coupons.

### Emails Addresses for Key People

The wardens, as well as the paid staff (Rev Mary Cate, Joy and Elaine) all have email addresses in the StMarksOttawa domain. They are:

Rev Mary Cate: [MaryCate@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:MaryCate@stmarksottawa.ca)

Joy: [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca)

Elaine: [Elaine@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:Elaine@stmarksottawa.ca)

Janis Perkin : [Janis@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:Janis@stmarksottawa.ca)

Joseph Amuah : [Joseph@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:Joseph@stmarksottawa.ca)

Mike Duval : [Mike@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:Mike@stmarksottawa.ca)

Gillian Martin: [Gillian@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:Gillian@stmarksottawa.ca)

### E-Transfers to the Church

We can accept e-transfers to the main church account. We cannot do autodeposit because of the type of account but you may e-transfer money to [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca). You will be required to give a question. Please either make the answer obvious or email the office and let them know the answer to the question. This option has no cost to the church.

### Donations to the Church

We are extremely fortunate at St Mark's that there are a number of people who use Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). If you are unable to get to church, putting a cheque in the mail is always an option for getting your donation to us. If you wish to make a

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donation by credit card, you may do so at  
CanadaHelps.

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47820>.

### **Contacting the Church**

You may contact the office at 613-224-7431  
or [stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca](mailto:stmarks@stmarksottawa.ca). Messages are  
being monitored. Email is faster.

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**SPRING SEASON 2026**

**COFFEE COMPANY & CONVERSATION**

a weekly gathering for seniors in the community  
coffee, goodies & featured activities

**Every Thursday  
10:00am - 12noon  
April 2 - June 18, 2026**

SENIORS – COME & JOIN US

 **St Mark's Anglican Church  
1606 Fisher Avenue, Ottawa**  
For more information contact:  
**St Mark's at 613 224-7431**



### UP-COMING ACTIVITIES

- April 2** Games and Koffee Klatsch
- April 9** Guest: **Davina Pearl** - much in demand Ottawa saxophone player and band leader, with guitar partner, **Gino Scaffidi** in a duo presentation of popular classic standards and light jazz
- April 16** Creative Writing Group and Koffee Klatsch
- April 23** **Jamie Anderson** – guitarist, songstress and songwriter – a CCC favourite
- April 30** **Laurence Wall** – well-known former CBC radio broadcaster presents ***Canada's History in the 20th Century through the Magic of Radio***
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- May 7** Guest: **Russell Wilkins** - on ***Challenges and Surprises in Genealogical Research***, a presentation of 20 to 25 minutes
- May 14** Creative Writing Group and Koffee Klatsch
- May 21** Guest: **Miyo Brown** - presenter on her family's Internment experience as Japanese Canadians during WWII
- May 28** Games and Koffee Klatsch
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- June 4** Guest: **Glebop Jazz Trio** – a return visit by a popular group presenting well-loved favourites in music and song
- June 11** Games and Koffee Klatsch
- June 18** End of Season **Luncheon** hosted by the CCC Team

***BACK ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2026, WITH A NEW FALL SEASON!***